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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-01 ACDA-12
HA-05 /094 W
----------027143 051535Z /53
O R 051458Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7233
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0906

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, SF, WA, AO

SUB: NAMIBIA: REACTIONS TO RAID IN ANGOLA

1. SUMMARY: REACTION TO THE SAG RAID IN ANGOLA AMONG WHITE OPPOSITION PARTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA HAS RANGED FROM CAUTIOUS TO SUPPORTIVE. IN NAMIBIA, THE FEDERAL PARTY AS WELL AS THE DEMOCRATIC TURNHALLE ALLIANCE, HAVE SUPPORTED THE SAG ACTION. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, COLIN EGLIN, LEADER OF THE PFP AND THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION, SAID TODAY (MAY 5)"I MUST
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ASSUME THE GOVERNMENT GAVE VERY SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO ALL THE IMPLICATIONS OF ITS ACTION PRIOR TO ITS DECISION TO STRIKE. NATURALLY THIS WILL RESULT IN FURTHER TENSIONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BUT I HOPE THIS WILL NOT PREJUDICE THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS MADE BY THE WEST AND WHICH SOUTH AFRICA HAS ACCEPTED."

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3. THE LEADER OF THE NEW REPUBLIC PARTY, VAUSE RAW,
WAS QUOTED IN THE PRESS AS SAYING THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAD
NO OPTION AND THAT "TO HAVE DONE OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE
BEEN TO CONDEMN INNOCENT BLACK MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN
TO BRUTALITY AND MURDER."

4. THE PRESS ALSO QUOTED DIRK MUDGE, CHAIRMAN OF THE
DEMOCRATIC TURNHALLE ALLIANCE AS SAYING THAT IF SWAPO
HAD ACCEPTED THE WESTERN PLAN AND ASCRIBED TO THE
SPIRIT OF PEACEFUL CHANGE, "THIS THING WOULD PROBABLY
NOT HAVE BEEN NECESSARY." BRYAN O'LINN, LEADER OF
THE FEDERAL PARTY AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
NAMIBIAN NATIONAL FRONT, SAID SWAPO SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED
RETALATION IN ANGOLA IF IT USED THAT COUNTRY AS A BASE."
SINCE THE ACCEPTANCE OF INDEPENDENCE ON THE WESTERN
PLAN, O'LINN SAID, INCREASED ACTS OF TERRORISM WERE
"UNREASONABLE AND TOTALLY UNJUSTIFIED."

5. EBEN VAN ZIJL, DEPUTY LEADER OF AKTUR, THE
NATIONAL PARTY'S ELECTION FRONT, REPORTEDLY SAID THE
STRIKE WOULD RESTORE CONFIDENCE AMONG THE PEOPLE OF
THE TERRITORY BECAUSE IT WAS TANGIBLE PROOF THAT
SOUTH AFRICA WOULD DEFEND THEIR SAFETY. THE PRESS REPORTED
THAT ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL STEYN SAID THAT
HE DID NOT WISH TO COMMENT ON THE STRIKE.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 05 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINS, MOPS, PBOR, SF, WA, AO, SWAPO, DTA, AKTUR, (EGLIN, COLIN), (RAW, VAUSE), (MUDGE, DIRK), (O\'LINN, BRYAN), (VAN ZIJL, EBEN)
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